[19th March 1948

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Sind Government was prepared to pay as much, if not more."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, what is the Institute of Technology referred to? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Naval Stores Depot, Chromepet, are a series of sheds that were constructed by the military and we have now purchased them. Some of the buildings and sites are to be sold to the Madras Institute of Technology, which is an institution recently started."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Will the Government try to take over the buildings available in Avadi and make them a suburb so that the present housing shortage in Madras would be relieved? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That question would arise when those buildings are declared surplus and are available to us."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Will the Government enter into correspondence with the Government of India to use Avadi as a suburb? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" We have already addressed the Government of India. They have not declared them as surplus, and so we cannot proceed further."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether this Government have represented to the Government of India that none of the buildings should be declared surplus without their knowledge? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Have the Government considered whether the buildings declared surplus, so far, would be suitable for housing schemes? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" So far as the buildings that have been declared surplus, none of them would be suitable for house-building schemes."

Selection of men over forty for Government service.

* 43* *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government servants who have completed the age of forty are eligible for appointments as (i) Assistant Commercial Tax Officers, (ii) Taluk Supply Officers, (iii) Textile Officers and (iv) Assistant Rationing Officers;

(*b*) whether, as in the case of Deputy Tahsildars, these selections from men over 40 are made by the Board of Revenue and, if not, by whom are these selections made and why;

(*c*) how many such selections were made during the last official year from the age groups of 40 to 45, 45 to 50 and 50 to 55 respectively;

19th March 1948]

(*d*) how many of these men were qualified for the post of Deputy Tahsildars and how many were not; and

(*e*) whether any uniform principle is adopted in the case of these selections?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" (*a*) All the posts referred to are temporary posts and no age-limit has been prescribed in respect of any of those posts.

" (*b*) The Board of Revenue is the selecting authority in the case of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers and Assistant Rationing Officers. The Collector is the selecting authority in the case of Taluk Supply Officers and Assistant Textile Control Officers. Prior to December 1946, the Provincial Textile Commissioner was the selecting authority in the case of Assistant Textile Control Officers.

" (*c*)

Category.	Age groups of			Total.
	40–45	45–50	50–55	
Assistant Commercial Tax Officers.	8	6	3	**17**
Taluk Supply Officers ..	80	17	1	**98**
Textile Control Officers.	8	..	1	**9**
Assistant Rationing Officers.	6	7	1	**14**

" (*d*) Out of the 138 men referred to above, 108 were qualified for appointment as Deputy Tahsildars.

" (*e*) Except in the case of Assistant Commercial Tax Officer no uniform principle has been laid down. The appointing authorities are trusted to make the most suitable choice. Selection to the post of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers are, however, governed by certain temporary rules issued in 1939. Appointment to these posts are made by transfer from the category of Deputy Tahsildars and Sub-Inspectors of Excise and by promotion of clerks in the Commercial Taxes Department, who have worked in that department for a period of not less than two years. The question of framing fresh rules for the recruitment to the posts in the Commercial Taxes Department is under the consideration of the Government."

Manufacture of caustic soda in the Province.

* 44 *Q.*—SRI M. K. SUNDARARAMA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of caustic soda factories in our Province; their monthly production in tons from 1940 onwards and their selling prices;

(*b*) the quantity in tons released for consumption in the Province to (1) yarn and cloth dyers, (2) soap manufacturers and (3) to other textile purposes;